

March 2.

JANUARY FISH RECEIPTS.

LARGELY EXCEEDED THOSE FOR THE SAME MONTH FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS.

Secretary Freeman of the Board of Trade has completed the tabulation of the figures showing the fish receipts at this port for January of this year, and has compiled a comparative table showing the receipts of that month with the receipts for January of 1910 and 1909.

The showing is a gratifying one, for it brings out the pleasing fact that the catch of ground fish for the initial month of this year is a million pounds ahead of the starting month of 1910 and over half a million pounds in the lead of the same month in 1909.

Particularly is the increase noticeable in the lines of salt cod and fresh haddock, the swelling of the receipts of the latter kind of fish indicating that the fresh fish business at this port is not gone by or dead, but on the other hand, shows a good healthy tone and holds out hope of becoming even more robust next season.

The receipts of each year in detail are:

	1911	1910	1909
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Salt cod	818,191	214,890	238,200
Fresh cod	102,233	140,500	357,000
Total cod	920,424	354,390	595,200
Fresh halibut	46,100	57,557	157,700
Fresh haddock	791,415		
Salt haddock	12,865		
Total haddock	804,280	303,900	334,300
Fresh hake	11,162		
Salt hake	7,160		
Total hake	18,322	18,700	15,400
Fresh cusk	5,620		
Salt cusk	2,810		
Total cusk	8,430	9,700	32,400
Fresh pollock	52,310		
Salt pollock	30,198		
Total pollock	82,508	159,200	69,800
Fresh halibut	389	1,260	4,685
Total	1,880,453	885,617	1,209,485
	Barrels	Barrels	Barrels
Salt herring	18,148	23,538	5,448
Frozen herring	10,705	10,326	15,785
	Quintals	Quintals	Quintals
Cured fish	1,064		1,900

*Includes pickled herring.

March 2.

Sch. Admiral Dewey Sailed from Boston.

The new owner of sch. Admiral Dewey, recently sold from this port to Newfoundland parties, and which went to Boston to load and has been held up from securing a British register because the Captain had not the necessary papers to prove himself a British subject, arrived at Boston yesterday with the necessary papers and straightened things out before the British council. The craft was cleared accordingly and sailed yesterday for her new home port, carrying a general cargo.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Arkona was at Liverpool, N. S., on Monday.

Sch. Paragon, Capt. William Hermon, of this port, one of the fresh halibut fleet, put in at Halifax, N. S., Monday to refit. The vessel had been out quite a while and encountered very hard weather.

Sch. Mystery was at Yarmouth, N. S., on Monday.

Handliners Spoken.

Capt. George Hodsdon of sch. Benjamin A. Smith reports speaking the handliners Mary A. Gleason and Jubilee on Brown's bank recently.

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Increasing Portland Cold Storage Plant.

New freezing coils are being installed in the Portland Cold Storage plant on Central wharf, the old ones, which have been in use for five years, have rusted badly, advantage being taken of the present time, when there is nothing doing in the freezing line, to make the change.

Fishermen Arriving.

Quite a number of men who will engage in fishing from this port the coming season on some of the salt bankers, arrived here yesterday.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Paragon cleared from Halifax, N. S., Tuesday, for the fishing grounds.

March 3.

HERRING CATCH 1,500,000,000 LBS.

Value of World's Yield Over Twenty-five Million Dollars.

"Schools of herring covering six square miles and even larger deep water areas are on record," says A. M. Payne in the Canadian Grocer. "Huxley, universally admitted as one of the foremost authorities during his life-time, estimated that there are scores of such schools in the North Atlantic, any single one of which would supply the whole world's consumption at any given time."

"Approximate estimates of the world's catch can be designated in figures for ordinary comprehension, but the individual numbers of these fish resources of the sea defy computation. Imagination, however, yields to actual facts, within living memory."

Beach Strewn With Herring at Crail.

Near the village of Crail, on the east coast of Fife, as narrated in the British Naturalist, a strong southeast gale strewed the beach for miles with banks of herring, several feet high. Outside the town limits, the people took them in baskets as they pleased. In Crail, the town crier proclaimed that 'Caller Herring,' i. e., herring fresh out of the sea, might be had 40 for a penny. As the tide rose the fish accumulated so rapidly that the crier's note was changed to a shilling a cartload. Successive waves, however, soon led the crier to shout that they could be taken gratis. When the waters did ebb, the corporation offered a shilling reward for every cartload removed. The fish were in prime condition, barely dead. In spite of the use of every grain of salt in the town and neighborhood, not a thousandth part of the mass was saved.

"It may be argued that half a century's incessant fishing must have depleted nature's supply, and that such a lavish sacrifice of valuable food could not be witnessed in the present day. Although the Crail incident was in the nature of a revelation, somewhat similar experiences have occurred on our coasts, when schools of fish have been driven shorewards in such immense numbers as to overtax every modern method of securing nature's bounties within immediate reach. Estimates are, of course, largely conjectural, but economic students of repute merit the credit of definite scientific research. The United States pamphlet by Hugh M. Smith, previously referred to estimated the annual herring catch of the world in 1903 at a billion and a half

pounds, valued at twenty-five and a quarter million dollars. Some regard this estimate as under the mark.

"The point intended to be proved being conceded that the supply of herring in the North Atlantic is practically inexhaustible, the question arises as to their frequent disappearance from former haunts, on both sides of the ocean. Various reasons are advanced, among other supposed causes, naval guns and torpedo practice, fog and siren signals, submarine bells, etc., the noise and disturbance of lobster fishing, unusual prevalence of offshore gales, continuous unfavorable weather conditions, steam trawling, diminution of accustomed food from unknown changes in nature's ordinary course, forcing the herring farther and farther into deep water, and resulting in more capricious dashes for the shore at spawning time.

"A recent German commission to study the natural history of the Baltic, came to the conclusion that

Herring Live in the Deep Water Off the Coast

which they approach periodically, swimming in separate schools and moving independently and spawning at different localities at various seasons.

"The herring is a migratory fish and its movements are so complicated that much mystery still baffles the scientists, the abundance of the fish at former resorts varying from year to year. Within the last few years, vast schools have appeared on the south coast of Sweden after they had deserted that region for seventy years.

"Artificial fertilization of herring ova had been easily affected in hatcheries, but no widespread efforts at propagation have ever been carried out, simply because it has never yet

been demonstrated that the supply has anywhere continuously diminished. The natural fertility of productivity has been sufficient to overcome the yearly increasing drain of the fisheries and the still greater destruction due to the 'hordes of 'big fish eating little fish,' porpoises, shark, dog-fish, in fact, nearly every species of larger fish, with even the gulls following the schools to prey upon them.

"Although seasons may vary from causes beyond human control, the time is coming when the Nova Scotia fisherman, with improved methods and adequate government administration, will double, treble, or perchance quadruple the herring fishery on our coasts."

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ONLY NINE FARES! AT T WHARF.

FISH PRICES IN CONSEQUENCE MADE MARKED ADVANCE FROM YESTERDAY.

There were but nine fares at T wharf this morning, and six of these aggregated only about 40,000 pounds, so, as was to be expected, prices advanced somewhat and things took on a more rosy tinge than yesterday or the fish catchers.

Three of the off-shore fleet came long just in time to get the advantage of the raise. Sch. Cynthia, Capt. Geoffrey Thomas, has a fine fare, 40,000 pounds of haddock and 22,000 pounds of cod, the largest amount of the latter fish in any one trip thus far this season. Schs. John J. Fallon and Virginia also have catches which will pay well.

Off-shore haddock sold at from \$2.35 to \$2.75 and shore stock at \$4 and \$4.50. Large cod went for \$5.10 and \$6, hake at \$5 and \$7, and pollock brought \$4.

Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are:

Sch. Rose Standish, 2000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1000 hake.

Sch. Virginia, 45,000 haddock, 5000 cod.

Sch. Mabel Bryson 9000 haddock, 1500 cod.

Sch. Ida S. Brooks, 9000 haddock, 700 cod.

Sch. Galatea, 3500 haddock, 1100 cod, 1200 hake.

Sch. Columbia, 1200 cod.

Sch. Cynthia, 40,000 haddock, 22,000 cod.

Sch. John J. Fallon 49,000 haddock, 12,000 cod.

Sch. Tecumseh, 3500 haddock, 1500 cod.

Off-shore haddock \$2.35 to \$2.75 per cwt.; shore haddock, \$4 to \$4.50; large cod, \$5.10 to \$6; market cod, \$4 to \$4.75; pollock, \$4; hake, \$5 to \$7.

St. John's, N. F., Fish Supply.

The "Trade Review" of St. John's, N. F., says:

"Stocks of fish held in the city stores are growing beautifully less, and are now lower than they have been at this season within the memory of the present generation. They do not total more than 125,000 quintals and there will be a respectable hole made in this during next month, if weather is anything like favorable for handling. As is usual at this season of the year, there are no transactions between merchant and fishermen, but a part cargo of damp fish sold at auction a few days ago fetched \$5.90 per quintal. The stuff was not only damp, but it was 'poor in the run,' and, relatively, it meant about \$7.50 for a good article of prime merchantable Madeira. This transaction is a pretty accurate pointer as to how the fish market stands at present."

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Fulton Fish Market Notes.

There seems to be a difference of opinion among the wholesale commission fish dealers as to the amount of business that will be done during the Lenten season. Some feel that there will be a rush, while others hold that the fish-eating season will have little effect upon the market. The impression is general that fish will not be higher than it is at this time, and many hold that prices will be lower. In nearly all grades of fancy fish prices are now high. With more stock coming to market in anticipation of a Lenten demand prices ought to be lower.

Groundfish prices are about as low as can be expected at this time, owing to the light catches being made.

The smacks arriving last week were seven in number with less than 5500 codfish. There was a large supply from the east and a few fish from Long Island. Steak fish sold at 6 to 8 cents and market cod at 4 to 4 1/2 cents.

There were no changes in prices of eels.

Flounders were in fair supply and sold at 4 to 6 cents.

Haddock was plentiful and cheap, 4 cents being the top price.

There were five carloads of western white halibut. It sold at 11 to 12 cents. Eastern white halibut brought as high as 18 cents the latter part of the week. During the early part of the week 13 to 14 cents was the quotation.

There were no hake in the market.—New York Fishing Gazette.

Maine Herring Interests Reach Agreement.

There will be no herring war.

That was the report received by some of the dealers in Portland Tuesday afternoon from Augusta where several Portland men were in conference with the representatives of the weirmen from the eastern part of the state.

Though no definite information on the subject has been received, it is understood that an agreement has been reached between the seiners and the weirmen, but this agreement is somewhat different from the one first entered into. Instead of allowing seining only west of White head off Rockland, as was originally planned, it will permit it somewhat farther to the eastward as there are seiners living in that section that wish to be accommodated. If this agreement stands, then the weirmen will still have their weirs in the eastern waters of the state without trouble from the seiners while the seiners and weirmen will have to continue in company in the western waters and especially around Casco bay. This is all the Portland men have wanted and they seem to have won their point.

Famine in Lobsters.

Lobsters are now selling in Boston at prices higher than for a long time, owing to scarcity. The local wholesale market is practically empty, save for what remains of three barrels of the Portland product which came within two days, and 19,000 pounds which came yesterday from Yarmouth, N. S., on the steamer Boston, a small shipment. These probably will not reach the market until today, and then most likely at increased prices.

New York, where the demand is even greater, is feeling the scarcity keenly, probably more so than Boston. Merchants there get most of their supply through Boston, but recently they have been going to the fountain head, so to speak.

Wholesale prices in Boston yesterday were: Large live, 30 cents per pound; large boiled, 34 cents; live chickens, 24 cents and boiled chicken 26 cents. Retailers were asking 40 cents a pound. The prices, however, are more or less merely quotations. The scarcity is owing to the ice, which prevents working of the pounds and pots. It is expected, however, that within a short time, perhaps a week or two, the supply will be more plentiful.

Maine Herring Legislation.

Wednesday Jas. E. Pool of the Portland Cold Storage Co. was home from Augusta, where he had been in the interest of the herring seiners of this vicinity. He admitted an agreement had been reached between the seiners and the weirmen, but said that the terms of this agreement are not yet to be announced. He admitted, however, that the herring industry in Casco bay will continue just as it has in the past and that seining will be allowed here as it always is. Should the small fish strike in here in as large numbers as they did last fall, then the chances are good that Portland may yet have the bulk of the state's herring catch.

March 3.
**MARKET BOATS
WENT OUT EARLY.**

**HADDOCKERS AND POLLOCKERS
WILL HAVE GOOD FISH
DAY.**

But one shore boat, with a small fare, has arrived here since last report. There are all indications of a fish day outside and the market boats all went out early, the fleet of pollock seiners following about 7 o'clock.

About 11 o'clock a telephone message from Eastern Point light stated that the fresh halibut sch. Rhodora was just outside and as it was very calm she wanted a tug to bring her in. One was sent down to her.

Sch. Rhodora reached the harbor just before noon. She has been on a long and stormy trip and hails for 10,000 pounds of halibut.

The steam netters, which have been doing but little fishing for a long while, because of the bad weather, are now beginning to strike some fish and today six of them are in with catches ranging from 500 weight to 7000 pounds having altogether some 23,000 pounds of new live goods which will sell well.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.
The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

- Sch. Mary E. Silveira, shore, 4000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Sch. Mary B. Greer, shore.
- Sch. Flora J. Sears, shore.
- Sch. Regina, via Boston.
- Sch. Rhodora, Green bank, 10,000 lbs. halibut.
- Steamer Nomad, shore, 6000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Steamer Quoddy, shore 7000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Steamer Mindora, shore, 4000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Steamer Hope, shore, 3000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Steamer Weazel, shore, 2500 lbs. fresh fish.
- Steamer Prince Olaf, shore, 500 lbs. fresh fish.

- Vessels Sailed.**
- Sch. Benjamin A. Smith, haddocking.
 - Sch. Rex, haddocking.
 - Sch. Thomas S. Gorton, haddocking.
 - Sch. Stiletto, haddocking.
 - Sch. Speculator, haddocking.
 - Sch. Mary DeCosta, haddocking.
 - Sch. Emily Sears, haddocking.
 - Sch. Rita A. Viator, haddocking.
 - Sch. Rebecca, haddocking.
 - Sch. Matthew S. Greer, haddocking.
 - Sch. Ethel B. Penney, haddocking.
 - Sch. Manomet, haddocking.
 - Sch. Jeanette, haddocking.
 - Sch. Aspinet, haddocking.
 - Sch. Valentina, haddocking.
 - And all the pollock fleet.

- Today's Fish Market.**
- Georges handline salt cod, \$5.75 for large and \$5.50 for medium.
- Bank halibut, 12 1/4 cts. per lb. for white and 11 cts. for gray, heads off.
- Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.
- Salt haddock, \$2 per cwt.
- Salt hake, \$2 per cwt.
- Salt pollock, \$2 per cwt.
- Splitting prices for fresh fish:
- Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.
- Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium, \$1.30; snappers 50c.
- Haddock, \$1.30 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.30 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.

New Vessels at Essex.

At Essex the new Boston fishing schooner Eleanor De Costa is finished at Tarr & James' Essex yard, and is awaiting the opening of the river for launching. She is built on the lines of the Josephine De Costa and when fitted out will be placed in command of Capt. John Fields, lately of the Gettrude, and before that of the Louise C. Cabral, which was burned a couple of years ago in Provincetown harbor.

Almost finished at A. D. Story's yard is a new knockabout which is being built for Capt. Silveira. The new schooner is named the Georgia, and will be about the same model as the Matthew S. Greer. She will be launched in a couple of weeks if weather and water conditions prove favorable.

Former Gloucester Craft Rammed.

Sch. Thomas F. Bayard, formerly a well known fishing schooner of this port, which was sold and went to the Klondike coast at the time of the gold craze, is now one of the Pacific sealing fleet. Recently she was rammed while lying at her wharf, by a Vancouver tug. It has repaired and proceeded on her voyage to the sealing ground.

and destroy untold millions of dollars, and American employment and opportunity beyond estimate.

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Newfoundland Fishing Notes.

Mr. Lake, of Fortune, is taking a couple of crews from St. John's, N. F., this season to crew his banking schooners for the Grand banks industry. Some of the men were engaged with the same people last year and made good bills. The inducement held out to the men by the owners of the schooners this year are one hundred and seventy dollars and an extra share for the entire banking voyage, which will last eight or nine months. The bankers going from St. John's have already taken up their supplies and will leave on the Prospero about March 20th for Fortune, as the schooners will then be ready to sail for the banks, as operations there are expected to begin about the last of March.

Anacortes Company Will Not Build Immediately.

In an interview with W. F. Robinson, president of the Robinson Fisheries company, a representative of the American learned that the report, as published by a local paper, stating that the Robinson Fisheries would begin building operations soon on a large plant, was untrue. Mr. Robinson stated that although he was contemplating building later on, there would nothing be done until summer at the very earliest. The codfish schooners Alice and Joseph Russ will sail for the north in the early spring as usual to engage in the cod-fishing business, but nothing is to be done in the building line for several months at least.—Anacortes American.

- Haddocking Stocks.**
- Sch. Elsie, Capt. Thomas Downey, stocked \$1426 on her haddock trip, landed here yesterday, the crew sharing \$30 clear.
- Sch. Raymah, Capt. Felix Hogan, stocked \$1700 on her haddock trip, landed at T wharf yesterday.

Portland Fish Notes.

The following fares of fish were reported Wednesday, all for the Commercial wharf dealers: Topsail Girl 8000; Fanny Reed, 3000; Wautauga, 3500.

Will Start Factory.

The Clark's Harbor, N. S., Coast Guard says: "It is said Mr. H. T. d'Entremont of Lower East Pubnico, will start a boneless fish business there, if reciprocity carries, as now framed."

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MUSSELS FOR FOOD.
Woods Hole Laboratory Man Puts Them on a Par With Oysters.

A valuable food resource of the nation which so far has not been developed is to be found in the mussel beds, which extend on the Atlantic coast, from Maine to North Carolina and on the Pacific from Washington to San Francisco.

Irving A. Field of the United States fisheries laboratory at Woods Hole, Mass, in a bulletin entitled "The food value of sea mussel," says the natural beds of sea mussels are capable of supplying wholesome food to thousands of persons at the expense of the trouble of collecting them."

It is possible, he believes, to develop an industry in the marketing of mussels which may surpass even that of the oyster and at the same time have no injurious effect upon that trade.

March 3.

Found Pollock Schools.

Pollock have been found at last, sch. Marion E. Turner landing about 6000 pounds at Portland on Wednesday, which she picked up off Half Way Rock. The various schooners and steamers which have been engaged the past month in hunting for this elusive fish, have had most discouraging luck, and quite a number of the skippers have given up the search in disgust.

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Portland Fish Notes.

It is evident that the net fish are not arriving in as large numbers as it was hoped. The fishing steamer Carrie and Mildred which has had her nets spread off the lightship came in again Thursday with a few fish, but not nearly as many as were secured last year. Capt. George McLean says the fish have not struck in very strong as yet.

Fresh Fish Fares at Digby, N. S.

Sch. Dorothy M. Smart was at Digby, N. S., recently with 105,000 pounds of fresh fish. Her stock must have been a good one, as haddock have been bringing good prices.

March 4.

**SHORE BOATS
LAND FISH.**

**SCH. PRECEPTOR ALSO LANDED
TRIP OF FRESH HALIBUT
AT THIS PORT.**

All the market boats went out this morning, as did quite a bunch of the pollock seining fleet, all looking for a chance to do some fishing so they can make the Monday market and share in the good prices which are sure to prevail.

Yesterday afternoon sch. Preceptor came in from a fresh halibut trip, hailing for 15,000 pounds of halibut. Like all the rest of the fleet which has been to the eastward the Preceptor has had her full share of bad weather and very little chance to do any fishing.

At present but few vessels are due and arrivals next week are expected to be not numerous.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

- The arrivals and receipts in detail are:
- Sch. Preceptor, Quero Bank, 15,000 lbs. halibut.
 - Steamer Quoddy, shore, 4000 lbs. fresh fish.
 - Steamer Nomad, shore, 5500 lbs. fresh fish.
 - Steamer Prince Olaf, shore, 1700 lbs. fresh fish.
 - Steamer Weazel, shore, 1000 lbs. fresh fish.
 - Steamer Mindora, shore, 900 lbs. fresh fish.
 - Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, shore.
 - Sch. Georgianna, shore.
 - Sch. Alice, shore.
 - Sch. Hope, shore.
 - Sch. Mary Emerson, shore.
 - Sch. Hope, shore, 1000 pounds fresh fish.

- Vessels Sailed.**
- Sch. Clara G. Silva, haddocking.
 - Sch. Emily Cooney, haddocking.
 - Sch. Flora J. Sears, haddocking.
 - Sch. Valentina, haddocking.
 - Sch. Elsie, haddocking.
 - Sch. Lucinda I. Lowell, salt trawling.

- Today's Fish Market.**
- Georges handline salt cod, \$5.55 for large and \$5.00 for medium.
- Bank halibut 14c per lb., for white and 11 1/2 c for gray, heads off.
- Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.
- Salt haddock, \$2 per cwt.
- Salt hake, \$2 per cwt.
- Salt pollock, \$2 per cwt.
- Splitting prices for fresh fish:
- Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.
- Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium, \$1.30; snappers 50c.
- Haddock, \$1.30 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.30 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.

Halibut Sale.

The fare of sch. Rhodora sold to the American Halibut Company at 14 cents per pound for white and 11 1-2 cents for gray. The fare of sch. Preceptor sold to the same concern. Each fare was sold with the heads off.

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A 176 Pound Catfish.

What is probably the largest catfish ever captured in an Iowa river was pulled out of the Nishnabotony River by men who were excavating for a foundation for the new dam. The fish weighed 176 pounds. Its mouth was filled with scars and several fish-hoofs were imbedded in it. The fish is supposed to be the one hooked so many times by fishermen near here, none of whom was ever able to land the monster.

March 4.

More Good Haddocking Stock.

Sch. Harmony, Capt. Christopher Gibbs, stocked \$2310 on her recent fine haddock trip landed at Boston, the crew sharing \$64.12.

Sch. Virginia, Capt. Conrad, stocked \$1550 on her fare landed at T wharf this week and yesterday sch. Cynthia, Capt. Geoffery Thomas stocked between \$1500 and \$1800 on her nice fare, the crew sharing \$41 clear.